



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

August 18, 2004

TO: Interested Parties -- Commercial Availability Reviews

FROM: Jackie W. Jones, Program Manager for
Commercial Availability Reviews
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SUBJECT: Commercial Availability Review on Apparel of Certain Cotton Napped
Sheeting Fabric (Investigation No. 332-458-015)

The U.S. International Trade Commission initiated a review to provide advice concerning a petition filed under the “commercial availability” provision of the United States-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA) on apparel of certain woven cotton napped sheeting fabrics (see below for fabric specifications). However, because the fabrics named in the petition are similar to those that are the subject of two ongoing “commercial availability” investigations (Nos. 332-458-009 and 010), the Commission will use information already obtained in these two investigations as the basis for its report on the fabrics covered by Investigation No. 332-458-015.

The petition under review in Investigation No. 332-458-015 covers two woven, 100-percent cotton napped sheeting fabrics classified in HTS statistical reporting number 5209.31.60.50. The fabrics are piece dyed, napped on both sides, and made with ring-spun warp yarns and open-end-spun filling yarns. Specifications for the fabrics may be found on the website of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of Textiles and Apparel, at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/fr2004/comav27.htm>.

The petition was filed on behalf of Picacho, S.A., La Libertad, El Salvador, by Sandler, Travis, and Rosenberg, P.A., and received by the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) on August 12, 2004. The petition alleges that the fabrics are not available in commercial quantities in a timely manner from any producer in the United States.

The Commission will provide probable economic effects advice in the review for the napped sheeting fabrics under its investigation No. 332-458, *Commercial Availability of Apparel Inputs (2004): Effect of Providing Preferential Treatment to Apparel Imported from Sub-Saharan African, Caribbean Basin, and Andean Countries*, instituted at the request of the United States Trade Representative (USTR). The advice concerns the probable economic effect on U.S. producers, workers, and consumers of granting duty-free and quota-free treatment to apparel made in eligible countries from the specified fabrics, regardless of the source of the fabrics, should

CITA determine that the fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner.

The Commission plans to submit its advice for this review in a classified report to USTR by August 25, 2004, the same date on which the Commission is scheduled to submit classified reports to USTR that contain its advice on Investigations Nos. 332-458-009 and 332-458-010. The Commission will issue public versions of all three reviews soon thereafter.

Further information on this review may be obtained from Heidi Colby-Oizumi (202-205-3391); heidi.colby@usitc.gov. Information on the commercial availability investigation of the Commission can be obtained from its Program Manager (see above) and from its website at www.usitc.gov/332s/shortsup/shortsupintro.htm. Information on commercial availability requests is also available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, which chairs CITA, on the website of its Office of Textiles and Apparel at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/CA.htm>